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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The hon. Member should be glad that at least on such occasions some attention is paid to these repairs." (Laughter.)

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" அங்குள்ள மரங்களுக்கு வெள்ளை அடித்திருப்பதால் அங்கு போகும் ஜனங்கள் அவைகளைக் கண்டு அவைகள் பேயோ பிசாசோ, என்று பயப்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் அப்படி செய்ததை திரும்பவும் அழிப்பதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is good, Sir, that people who go about at night time do think it dangerous to go on the road. If robbers have superstitions that if they were to go in the night, a devil or somebody might catch them, to that extent I welcome it." (Laughter.)

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" கவர்னர் அவர்கள் போகும்போது அங்கு மற்ற அதிகாரிகளும் வருகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு கொடுக்கப்பட்ட அலவன்ஸும் இதில் சேர்ந்ததா என்பதை மந்திரி சொல்லுவார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" These expenses refer to Government's expenditure."

SRI S. RAMASWAMI NAIDU :—" On a point of order, Sir. May I know whether the Hon. Speaker has recognized the school boy method of showing hands to catch the eye of the Speaker? If it is so, will the Hon. Speaker order the discontinuance of that practice as it is very derogatory to the dignity of the House? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have told the House times out of number that hon. Members should not raise their hands to catch the eye of the Speaker."

Opening of an office for the registration of births and deaths at Manalurpet.

9-50 a.m. * 378 *Q.*—SRI A. MUTHUSWAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments be pleased to state whether there is any proposal for the opening of an office for the registration of births and deaths at Manalurpet, Tirukkoyilur taluk in South Arcot and if so, why it is being delayed?

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" Yes. The proposal is to be considered as a Part II Scheme for 1954–55."

Licence fee for mikes.

* 379 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have recently passed orders that any person who wishes to install mike arrangements temporarily in any place should remit Rs. 2 in a treasury and obtain a chalan receipt and produce the same before the Police authorities before such installation and if so, the reason for the same?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM (on behalf of Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" No orders in the terms specified in the Legislative Assembly question have been issued by the Government, but orders were issued in G.O. Ms. No. 1612, Home, dated 15th May 1953, fixing Rs. 2 as the fee leviable for a licence for the use of sound amplifiers. A copy [a] of the Government Order is placed on the table of the House. This small fee was prescribed for the purpose of regulating the use of sound amplifiers and to cover the expenditure to Government in dealing with applications for licences."

Licence fee for mikes.

* 380 Q.—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Government have recently passed orders to the effect that a fee of Rs. 2 be paid for permission to use microphone in municipalities and panchayats and if so, the reasons for the same?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM (on behalf of Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" The Member is referred to the answer given to Legislative Assembly question No. 379 (starred) put by Sri K. P. Gopalan, M.L.A."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" In view of the fact that it is very difficult to get licences from the Assistant Superintendents of Police, who sometimes reside in far-off places and in view of the fact that collection of two rupees is unjustified and also stifles freedom of expression on the part of the people, will the Government reconsider the whole matter and cancel the licence fee? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Many points of view have been put forward by the hon. Member. But one point of view is important and that is that there should be no conflict between the various sections of the people using amplifiers. Sometimes it happens that two parties want to hold meetings at the same place and time using sound amplifiers. That has got to be regulated and in doing so, we have to authorize the person having sufficient authority to issue these licences. The fee that is collected, viz., two rupees, goes to meet the bare expenses involved in issuing licences."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Are the Government aware that in certain places—and I can speak with authority as far as the Chirakkal taluk is concerned—public meetings and other functions are held in the interior of the town, that the police officers reside at distant places, that, therefore, it is difficult to obtain licences in time—invariably it is not until after the function is over—and that it is a curtailment of the right of the people to hear and to be heard? Will the Government reconsider the matter in view of these difficulties?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If any hard cases are brought to my notice, I shall consider them."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 371–378 infra.